

I have known Dr. Moody for most of my life. In fact, prior to her work at Holy Angels, she was my principal at St. Michael's School in Gastonia, where she spent a lot of time with my two brothers in the principal's office.

Dr. Moody has been a visionary leader for Holy Angels. Under her leadership, the organization has greatly expanded its level of full-time resident care, as well as physical therapy, day, and vocational programs. They also opened several local businesses to serve the community and give their residents occupational experience.

I wish Dr. Moody and her family the very best as she begins a very well-deserved retirement.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

#### ANDREW K. BAKER DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS CLINIC

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 2159) to designate the community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs located at 400 College Drive, Middleburg, Florida, as the "Andrew K. Baker Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic", and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 2159

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF ANDREW K. BAKER DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS CLINIC.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs located at 400 College Drive, Middleburg, Florida, shall after the date of the enactment of this Act be known and designated as the "Andrew K. Baker Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic" or the "A.K. Baker VA Clinic".

(b) REFERENCE.—Any reference in any law, regulation, map, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the community-based outpatient clinic referred to in subsection (a) shall be considered to be a reference to the Andrew K. Baker Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ELLZEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on S. 2159.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of U.S. Navy Chief Petty Officer Andrew Kenneth Baker, an esteemed antisubmarine warfare chief, a distinguished combat search and rescue swimmer, and a faithful servicemember who gave his life honoring his commitment to his country.

The bill before us, S. 2159, would appropriately name VA's community-based outreach clinic in Middleburg, Florida, the Andrew K. Baker VA Clinic.

Chief Petty Officer Baker represented self-sacrifice and courage in the name of public service.

Born in West Virginia in 1960, Chief Petty Officer Baker moved to Pensacola, Florida, in 1980 to begin what would be a remarkable 17-year stint in the U.S. Navy.

In Pensacola, CPO Baker graduated from the Search and Rescue Swimmer School before entering Fleet Replacement Aircrewman training at the Naval Air Station in Jacksonville, where he earned his "Wings of Gold."

Upon graduation, CPO Baker served on the USS *Nimitz*, reporting to HS-9, a helicopter antisubmarine warfare squadron for the Navy. From there, he served on HS-3 as the Training and Operations Chief for another antisubmarine warfare squadron safeguarding American interests over and under the seas.

Tragically, on March 13, 1997, while serving aboard the USS *John F. Kennedy*, Chief Petty Officer Baker and three others perished when their H-60 "Sea Hawk" helicopter crashed at sea during a Navy SEAL training mission.

Though his life was tragically cut short, in his 17 years of service, CPO Baker managed to cement a legacy of leadership, dedication, and steadfastness which will reverberate for generations to come. Indeed, today, Chief Petty Officer Baker is survived by his wife, Tina, and their son, who, himself, has completed six tours in Iraq, carrying on his father's legacy as a decorated patriot.

During his lifetime of service, Chief Petty Officer Baker won various honors, including the Navy Commendation Medal, the Navy Achievement Medal, and the American Defense Service Medal, among others.

Today, I hope we will come together to honor Chief Petty Officer Baker one more time by renaming the VA's community-based outreach clinic in Middleburg, Florida, the Andrew K. Baker VA Clinic.

As an institution dedicated to supporting those who served, it is fitting that this VA clinic bear the name of a Navy chief who placed service to others above all else. With this legislation, we will take an important step in commemorating one servicemember's cour-

age and bravery, as we continue to honor all those who have served our country.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD letters of support for S. 2159 from The American Legion, VFW, and Disabled American Veterans as well as the Florida delegation.

THE AMERICAN LEGION,  
OFFICE OF DEPARTMENT COMMANDER,  
Orlando, FL, December 21, 2021.

Re Support for S. 2159, to name the Department of Veterans Affairs in Middleburg, Florida located in Clay County as the "Andrew K. Baker Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic".

Hon. MARCO RUBIO,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR RUBIO: On behalf of The American Legion, Department of Florida, Inc., we write to lend our support in naming the new Clay County Veterans Affairs Clinic after Chief Andrew K. Baker of Middleburg, Florida.

Chief Baker was an esteemed antisubmarine warfare chief and combat search and rescue swimmer of HS-3 in Jacksonville, Florida. After quickly rising through the ranks at Naval Aircrew Candidate School in Pensacola, Florida, Chief Baker earned his Wings of Gold for distinguished performance and served a tour on the U.S.S. *Nimitz*, being assigned as the Training and Operations Chief. In 1997, Chief Baker lost his life during a mission in North Carolina when his H-60 Seahawk helicopter crashed at sea during a SEAL training mission. His legacy currently lives on in his son who has completed six tours in the Middle East and has proven himself a dedicated hero.

We know that in naming the new Veterans Affairs clinic for Chief Baker, his heroic legacy will be enhanced in the Clay County community and will inspire future servicemen and women from across our great state.

Sincerely,

JERRY BRANDT,  
Department Commander.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS,  
Ocala, FL, September 30, 2021.

Hon. MARCO RUBIO,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR RUBIO: On behalf of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Florida we write to lend our support in naming the new Clay County Veterans Affairs Clinic after Chief Andrew K. Baker of Middleburg, Florida.

Chief Baker was an esteemed antisubmarine warfare chief and combat search and rescue swimmer of HS-3 in Jacksonville, Florida. After quickly rising through the ranks at Naval Aircrew Candidate School in Pensacola, Florida, Chief Baker earned his Wings of Gold for distinguished performance and served a tour on the USS *Nimitz* being assigned as the Training and Operations Chief. In 1997, Chief lost his life during a mission in North Carolina when his H-60 Seahawk helicopter crashed at sea during a SEAL training mission. His legacy now lives on in his son who currently has six completed tours in the Middle East and has proven himself a dedicated hero.

We know that in naming a new VA clinic for Chief Baker, his heroic legacy will be enhanced in the Clay County community and will inspire future service men and women from across our great state.

Yours in Comradeship,

DANETTE JEAN HERNANDEZ,  
State Commander.